

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 255676

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 255676 ACTION USUN INFO NEW DELHI
ISLAMABAD 20 NOVEMBER.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 255676

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, IN, PK, XD

SUBJECT: UNGA DISARMAMENT: PAKISTAN AND INDIAN RESOLUTIONS
ON SOUTH ASIA NUCLEAR FREE ZONE (SANFZ)

REF: USUN 5087

1. INDIAN RES (L.681). ON ITS FACE INDIAN PROPOSAL IS
MERELY PROCEDURAL RES WHICH AFFIRMS ONE OF OUR OWN CRITERIA
FOR NFZ'S: THAT INITIATIVE FOR CREATION OF SUCH ZONES
SHOULD COME FROM WITHIN AREA TO BE COVERED BY ZONE. IN
CONTEXT, HOWEVER, INDIAN RES IS CLEARLY ATTEMPT TO HEAD OFF
OR OBFUSCATE PAKISTANI SANFZ RES.

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2. PAKISTANI RES (L.682). PAKISTANI RES IS CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENT OVER EARLIER DRAFTS. HOWEVER, IT STILL CONTAINS STATEMENT THAT NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE ZONE WOULD ENTAIL NON-USE UNDERTAKING BY NWS AND ASSUMPTION IS IMPLICIT IN RES THAT PARTIES WOULD HAVE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT OF INDEPENDENT PNE CAPABILITY.

3. WE COULD NOT SUPPORT PAKISTANI RES, AND IN CONTACT SHOULD NOT SUPPORT INDIAN RES. US DEL SHOULD THEREFORE ABSTAIN ON BOTH RESES. IF THERE ARE PROCEDURAL MOVES REGARDING THESE RESES, E.G., IF INDIAN RES, WHICH HAS PRIORITY, IS VOTED AND THERE IS MOTION NOT TO VOTE ON

PAKISTANI RES, DELEGATION SHOULD TAKE POSITION THAT WHILE IT NOT USEFUL FOR GA TO EVHNESS ITSELF ON EITHER RES AT THIS TIME (SEE BELOW) IF ONE IS CONSIDERED OTHER SHOULD BE. (FYI: WE WOULD NOT WISH TO BE PUT IN POSITION OF ASSISTING INDIAN MOVES TO BLOCK PAK RES BY ABSTENTION ON PROCEDURAL QUESTION. END FYI.) IF THERE IS ATTEMPT TO VOTE BOTH SANFZ RESES BY ACCLAMATION, DELEGATION SHOULD PRESS TO VOTE. BECAUSE OF SUBSTANTIVE PROBLEMS NOTED PARA 2 ABOVE, WE COULD NOT JOIN APPROVAL BY ACCLAMATION. ABSTENTION, WITH EXPLANATION OF VOTE BELOW IS LEAST AWKWARD WAY TO HANDLE PROBLEM. IF FOR ANY REASON RES IS ADOPTED BY ACCLAMATION OVER US OBJECTIONS, US DEL SHOULD THEN NOTE THAT WE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED VOTE AND MAKE EXPLANATION BELOW.

4. AT FIRST OPPORTUNITY, WHETHER ON PROCEDURAL ISSUE OR ON A RES, DEL SHOULD MAKE EXPLANATION OF VOTES ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: "AS IS WELL KNOWN, US SUPPORTS IN PRINCIPLE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NUCLEAR FREE ZONES SUBJECT TO CRITERIA WHICH WE DISCUSSED IN THIS COMMITTEE AND THE CCD. WE BELIEVE THEY CAN MAKE A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO NON-PROLIFERATION AND TO REGIONAL STABILITY AND SECURITY. ESTABLISHMENT OF SUCH A ZONE, HOWEVER, REQUIRES BASIC AGREEMENT ON THE GOALS AND CONDITIONS FOR SUCH A ZONE. THIS IMPLIES SUBSTANTIAL COMMUNITY OF INTERESTS AMONG THE POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS IN THE ZONE AND A CERTAIN DEGREE OF CONSULTATION AND PREPARATION BEFORE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS

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ARE MADE. RESOLUTIONS BEFORE US TODAY FROM TWO MEMBER STATES WHO WOULD BE ESSENTIAL MEMBERS OF A PROPOSED SANFZ ARE QUITE DIFFERENT IN SCOPE AND PERSPECTIVE. WE FULLY UNDERSTAND THE MOTIVES WHICH INSPIRED THE INTRODUCTION OF EACH. HOWEVER, UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THESE RESOLUTIONS WOULD ADVANCE THE OBJECTIVE OF A NUCLEAR FREE ZONE IN THE SOUTH ASIAN AREA. THEREFORE, THE USG DOES NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL AT THIS STAGE FOR THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO EXPRESS ITSELF ON THESE RESOLUTIONS AND THE USG WILL ABSTAIN ON BOTH RESES." IF NECESSARY, US DEL SHOULD ADD THAT WE DO BELIEVE THAT IF ONE OF THESE RESES IS CONSIDERED, THE OTHER SHOULD ALSO BE CONSIDERED AND WILL SO VOTE ON PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS INVOLVING RESOLUTIONS.

5. US DEL WILL NOTE THAT HINGING STATEMENT ON RELUCTANCE TO TAKE POSITION ON TWO DIFFERING RESES ON SAME SUBJECT GIVES MORE TO INDIANS WHO INTRODUCED THEIR RES AS DIVERSIONARY ACTION. US DEL SHOULD THEREFORE PRIVATELY INDICATE TO PAKISTANIS THAT WE REGRET OUR INABILITY TO VOTE FOR THEIR RES AS WE CONTINUE TO HAVE PROBLEMS WITH NON-USE PROVISION AND PNE QUESTION. INGERSOLL UNQUOTE

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